

REMARKS

Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, specifically it is alleged that the term "includes" renders the claim indefinite.

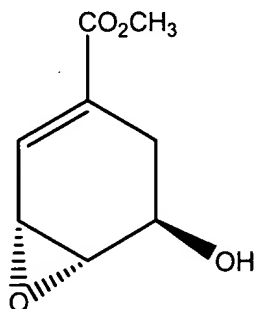
Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by the Wood *et al.* (U) disclosure. It is alleged that naturally-occurring (+)-methyl 3,4-anhydroshikimate (depicted as formula II) is the same as Applicants' formula in claim 22 and the preferred compound in claim 24.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112 Second Paragraph

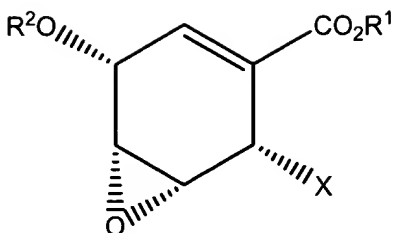
Claim 22 has been amended to remove the phrase "including". Applicants respectfully submit that with the aforementioned amendment to Claim 22, the rejection of Claims 22 to 24 is overcome.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 22 to 24 are alleged anticipated by the Wood *et al.* disclosure. Applicants respectfully traverse. Wood *et al.* discloses the following as formula II,



The formula in Applicants' Claim 1 is



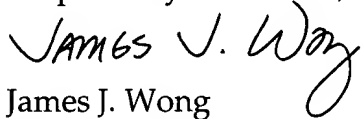
Applicants submit that the formulae are not identical. Please note that the position of the epoxide moiety is offset by one carbon between the two formulae. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Wood *et al.* does not anticipate claims 22 to 24.

Applicants further submit that Claims 22 to 24 are nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Wood *et al.*, as the disclosure does not teach or suggest the structures or the use of the claimed compounds of the present invention.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in a condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (650) 522-5823 if there are any issues to be resolved.

Respectfully Submitted,



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